

Most Great Fortunes Based on Great Robberies*

But there's the actual and the metaphor.
Consider the full frontal holdup

at a bank. Grim threats with guns
terrorize associates and customers,

latter staying down on the floor
as per spat instructions.

How gauche all that compared to
the Board stamping the latest

gouges and fashion-
ing the half lies

to cover them,
and themselves.

**freely translated from Balzac*